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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/878,273

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Noriko Matsumoto

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EXAMINER

GRANT II, JEROME

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 03/16/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/878,273

Applicant(s)

MATSUMOTO *mn*

Examiner

Jerome Grant II

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,8-11,15-17 and 19-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7,12-14 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/749,964.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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1.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-4, 8-11 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukushima further in view of Brown.

With respect to claim 1, Fukushima teaches an OA equipment, according to the first line of the Solution, having an interface 15. Fukushima teaches a personal computer 3 having an interface 2, a storage device 32 for storing a help list regarding how to use the fax machine (see lines 1-8 of the Solution). Fukushima teaches a help key, according to line 7 of the Solution for allowing the user to command help.

What is not specifically or clearly set forth is the memory and printing features of the Fukushima.

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However, these features are typical of any fax machine. Brown shows a fax machine, for example, that has a display portion, op panel 106, memory means (RAM) 113 and printing means (recording unit 107).

Because Fukushima and Brown are both directed to fax machines, the purpose of using a printing means, display means and memory means would have been obvious in any fax machine, which is clearly shown by Brown. Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the features of Brown into the fax of Fukushima to make the present invention.

With respect to claims 2 , 4, 9, 11 and 16, while Fukushima does not specifically teach printing a help list. This limitation is none-the-less obvious in view of the fact that documents that are obtained from memory can be printed out. Brown was shown to have a print means 107. Hence, the help information (information on the menu as disclosed by Brown) can be printed out by the will of the user.

With respect to claims 3, 10 and 17 , Fukushima teaches a display 12 so that information is displayed. See line 11 of the Solution.

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With respect to claim 8, Fukushima teaches an OA equipment, such as a printer, according to the first line of the Solution, having an interface 15. Fukushima teaches a personal computer 3 having an interface 2, a storage device 32 for storing a help list regarding how to use the fax machine (see lines 1-8 of the Solution). Fukushima teaches a help key, according to line 7 of the Solution for allowing the user to command help.

What is not specifically or clearly set forth is the memory and printing features of the Fukushima.

However, these features are typical of any fax machine. Brown shows a fax machine, for example, that has a display portion, op panel 106, memory means (RAM) 113 and printing means (recording unit 107).

Because Fukushima and Brown are both directed to fax machines, the purpose of using a printing means, display means and memory means would have been obvious in any fax machine, which is clearly shown by Brown. Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the features of Brown into the fax of Fukushima to make the present invention.

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With respect to claim 15, Fukushima teaches a peripheral device (printer OA) according to the first line of the Solution. Fukushima teaches an OA equipment, with an interface 15. Fukushima teaches a personal computer 3 having an interface 2, a storage device 32 for storing a help list regarding how to use the fax machine (see lines 1-8 of the Solution). Fukushima teaches a help key, according to line 7 of the Solution for allowing the user to command help.

What is not specifically or clearly set forth is the memory and printing features of the Fukushima.

However, these features are typical of any fax machine. Brown shows a fax machine, for example, that has a display portion, op panel 106, memory means (RAM) 113 and printing means (recording unit 107).

Because Fukushima and Brown are both directed to fax machines, the purpose of using a printing means, display means and memory means would have been obvious in any fax machine, which is clearly shown by Brown. Hence, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the features of Brown into the fax of Fukushima to make the present invention.

2.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brown.

With respect to claim 19, Brown teaches a host device 140 connected to a peripheral device 100 having a printing and a scanning function and a help key (provided by the op panel 106) for inputting a help command (help menu); an input/output interface (101) or network 120; a storage device (program memory 145) for storing the help list of the fax; read unit controller 150 for reading out the help information from the host; and display means panel 106 for displaying the help list.

With respect to claim 20, Brown shows a printer 107 which can be used to print any information processed and stored in RAM 113 which includes help list information.

With respect to claim 21, Brown teaches an op panel 106 that displays help information

3.

Claims Objected

Claims 5-7, 12, 13, 14, 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 703-305-4391. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams, can be reached on (703) 305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.



JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER